

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO AMERICORPS

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to over 100,000 individuals who have served the American community through their participation in Americorps. As this program completes its fifth year, I would like to recognize some of the outstanding work that Americorps members have been doing in the Los Angeles area.

Working with Building Up Los Angeles, over 100 Americorps participants a year serve thousands of young people from kindergarten through high school at 29 sites including public schools, churches and community centers. Corps members tutor and mentor children during the school year and deliver academic support services when school is out; provide health education and organize teen pregnancy and domestic violence prevention programs; and encourage residents to have pride in their communities through neighborhood clean-up and beautification projects and public art projects. Building Up Los Angeles serves East Los Angeles, Central City South, Hollywood, Northeast Los Angeles, Pico Union, Koreatown, the San Fernando Valley, Picoima, South Central, and Watts.

Over 100 individuals with the Southern California Environmental Resources Management AmeriCorps Program have been working to protect our environment by distributing over 30,000 water-conserving devices, such as low-flow showerheads, to residents in the Compton area and other communities in the greater metropolitan basin. The program, which is administered by the Executive Partnership for Environmental Resources Training (ExPERT), will mean a savings of over 4 billion gallons of water per year over the next ten years.

In Bellflower, California, approximately 65 Americorps tutors work with Project REACH (Reading Excellence Achieved with Community Help) and Project APPLE (After School Program Promoting Learning and Enrichment), which provide academic support and enrichment for 1300 students in grades K-8, with emphasis on grades three and four. This year, additional opportunities to serve through Project REACH and Project APPLE included a series of literacy programs designed to promote parent involvement; helping to organize the Special Olympics; assisting with a Community Immunization Project; planning activities for children in the performing arts; providing nutrition education; and developing initiatives that help children gain teamwork and leadership skills.

Through their work, Americorps members are helping to improve neighborhoods and schools, develop communities, and protect the environment. I am pleased to have this opportunity to commend and thank those individuals who have served through the Americorps program and made such valuable contributions in the Los Angeles area.

TRIBUTE TO HANK SMETAK

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Hank Smetak. Mr. Smetak worked 50 years in the defense industry, helping keep America free, during times of war and peace.

Mr. Smetak's career in the aerospace defense industry has spanned over five decades, through conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf, and outlasting a Cold War that had an impact on almost every part of the world.

Mr. Smetak started his career at Vogt, now Lockheed Martin, from 1949 to 59, from 1959 through 1968 he was employed by Rohr Industries. Then he returned to Lockheed serving from 1968 to the present. From Rohr to LTV to Loral to Lockheed Martin, Mr. Smetak has been a constant through many changes, and he had helped make North Texas home to the cutting edge of America's defense industry.

Mr. Smetak, thank you for 50 years of loyalty to North Texas' defense industry. For 50 years, your work has contributed to defending America's freedom and our values, and has helped make us the world's only Superpower.

TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH A. SLOAN

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention an honor bestowed upon Deborah A. Sloan, a teacher at Zia Elementary School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Ms. Sloan was selected as a participant in the Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program.

Ms. Sloan, was selected from a national pool of more than 2,700 applicants for this honor. As a member of the Navajo/Hopi Tribe and a distinguished teacher she is an outstanding representative of the rich, diverse culture in New Mexico. Ms. Sloan joined 200 educators from throughout the United States to travel Japan. They visited primary and secondary schools, colleges, businesses and cultural sights to learn about effective educational tools and techniques. As a representative of New Mexico schools she shared her knowledge and insight regarding education with people from throughout the United States and Japan. Her participation is a tribute to her dedication and commitment to the children of Zia Elementary and the future of our community.

Please join me in thanking Deborah A. Sloan for contributions she is making to Albuquerque, New Mexico.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT H. ROSENTHAL

HON. DAN MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today, I respectfully pay tribute to a good friend and a wonderful constituent, Mr. Robert H. Rosenthal. He is an accomplished builder, humanitarian, and long time friend and leader of the American Jewish Committee. On February 10, 2000, the American Jewish Committee's West Coast Florida Chapter will honor Mr. Rosenthal with its 2000 Institute of Human Relations Award.

Bob is a generous philanthropist, stalwart advocate of Israel, and a champion of disadvantaged children. For two decades, the American Jewish Committee has been a focus of Bob's wide-ranging efforts in public affairs, serving in a variety of positions, including President of the West Coast Florida Chapter for three years.

Born and raised in Chicago, Illinois, Bob founded the R.H. Roberts Construction Company in 1952, serving as CEO and President until his retirement in 1980. Throughout the years, his company won awards for architectural excellence and he earned a reputation for promoting engaged corporate citizenship.

With his extraordinary talent for leadership and his great magnanimity, Bob has furthered the cause of all humanity. It is indeed a pleasure for the American Jewish Committee to applaud the civic concern and social vision of Robert H. Rosenthal, and, I honor him today as a friend and leader, and praise his contributions on behalf of the 13th Congressional District of Florida.

POTOMAC HERITAGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the occasion of the Third Annual Caucus for the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail to be held October 22 at Oxon Hill Manor, in my District.

Since Congress designated the Potomac River corridor as a National Scenic Trail in legislation enacted in 1983, grassroots organizations have joined forces with federal, state and local government agencies to identify new opportunities to provide for public enjoyment of a trail that follows "Our Nation's River." Protection of our river—which is part of the Chesapeake Bay watershed—and its historic sites and natural areas must be a top priority for our region in the years ahead.

The National Park Service requires sufficient tools to help facilitate public involvement with

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

this National Scenic Trail, which is why I support full funding of this effort under the Service's budget.

I congratulate the community of grassroots supporters of the Potomac Heritage Trail including the Potomac Heritage Partnership, Prince George's County government, the Accokeek Foundation and many other local groups and individuals. They are leading the regional effort to encourage conservation, historic preservation and sustainable commerce along the Potomac River corridor. They deserve our full support for their efforts.

SALUTING PATIENT
APPRECIATION DAY

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our nation's doctors and patients. The Genesee County Medical Society has proclaimed today, and the third Tuesday of every October thereafter, as "Patient Appreciation Day." At events around Genesee County, doctors are expressing their gratitude to their patients and are recognizing the great benefits of the doctor/patient relationship. I commend their efforts to reach out to patients and share their gratitude.

At a time when the news is filled with negative stories about managed care, I believe Patient Appreciation Day is a positive way to recognize all the good things that are happening in our nation's health care system. Patient Appreciation Day is a time to mark the important role that patients play in making our nation's health care system the best in the world. It is a day when doctors take an extra moment with their patients to express their gratitude and celebrate the opportunities they are given to provide their life-giving services.

It is my greatest hope that the Genesee County Medical Society has started a nationwide trend and that doctors across the country join in celebrating "Patient Appreciation Day" in the future. The Genesee County Medical Society should be applauded for their positive efforts toward improving the lives of the patients they serve.

HONORING DR. RICHARD BERTKEN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Richard Bertken, a native of the San Joaquin Valley. Dr. Bertken returned to Fresno after completing his studies at USC, UCLA, The George Washington University, and Stanford University. He was one of the first medical practitioners with the University of California San Francisco Medical School, Fresno. Dr. Bertken has officially retired from his government position with Veterans Administration Medical Center, but will continue to see patients as a consultant.

Dr. Bertken achieved state of the art therapeutic modalities. Many patients with Rheumatological and Immunological problems

awaited his expertise. In a short time, his patients graduated from wheel chairs to crutches, to full ambulation; for many, a return to full employment and to all, an improved quality of life.

Dr. Bertken considered the needs of the whole person, displaying genuine concern. He is dedicated not to just lessen pain but to eliminate it and prevent disability. Dr. Bertken is a strong patient advocate, seeking access to the most recent approved medications and treatments for his patients.

With his enthusiasm and positive attitude, he empowers patients under his care to take an active participation in their treatment plan through education and self-management. His vision for patients living quality productive lives include not just our veteran population, but also those he treats at the University Medical Center where he practices with the UCSF program.

As a leader he has established a culture of integrity for both patients and staff, an accountable and truthful standard of practice in health care delivery.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Dr. Bertken for his service to the community and his patients. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Richard Bertken many more years of continued success.

HONORING REV. GUSTA BOOKER,
JR.

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Rev. Gusta Booker, Jr. for his 31 years of service at Greater St. Matthew Baptist Church of Houston.

For more than 3 decades, Reverend Booker has addressed the needs of the Greater St. Matthew Baptist Church's congregation. In celebration of the church's 31st Anniversary, the congregation held a "Celebration of Love Service" this month followed by "A Love Fellowship Reception." The growth and success that Greater St. Matthew has experienced under Reverend Booker's leadership reveals a Pastor who is truly connected to his community.

Reverend Booker is the youngest of nine born to the late Reverend Gusta Booker, Sr. and the late Mrs. Gussie Booker in Columbus, Texas. Reverend Booker married Theola Massie in 1964, and they are the affectionate parents of three children, Ronald, Gusta III, and Alita Corine; two daughters-in-law, Valree Booker and Nicole Booker; two grandsons Ronald, Jr. and Joshua; and one granddaughter, Peyton Nicole.

Pastor Booker was called to the ministry in 1967, and later founded Greater St. Matthew "Southeast" located at 7701 Jutland Street. In 1994 he founded Greater St. Matthew "Southwest" at 14919 South Main Street, giving rise to the congregation's concept "One Church in Two Locations." In 1995, the Lindler-Booker Family Life Center was constructed.

Reverend Booker shares his insight and experiences with those who seek knowledge and guidance. He has published two books: *After the Honeymoon* and *Living Beyond the Pain*. His television and radio ministries can be seen and heard in Houston, Beaumont, and Austin.

While Reverend Booker's religious and spiritual obligations to his growing congregation have always been paramount, as a community leader, he has shared his faith and free time as Founder and First Moderator of the Gulf Coast Baptist Association, past President of Central State Convention of Texas, and past Chairman of the Christian Education Board of the National Baptist Convention of America.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his 31 years as Pastor at Greater St. Matthew, Reverend Booker's intelligence, enthusiasm, and integrity has served his congregations well. He brings tireless energy and compassion to each of his endeavors, whether it's as a Pastor, community leader, or friend. His contributions to the ministry and his energy in addressing the needs of his congregation and surrounding community are truly commendable.

MATTHEW NONNEMACHER
HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable young boy from my District in Hazleton, Pennsylvania—Matthew Nonnemacher. Matthew is only eleven years old, but he will be a participant this Friday in the White House Conference on Philanthropy. While most boys and girls his age are more concerned with getting their homework done, Matthew has been helping his disadvantaged neighbors.

Last year, Matthew's fourth grade teacher at St. Joseph Memorial School, Terri Smith, gave her students an assignment to draw a picture of the one wish they would like to be granted if they were on top of the world. Matthew's picture depicted him giving money to poor people. Later, after having asked his parents what would be the best way to help the poor, Matthew wrote a letter to the editor of his local newspaper, the Hazleton Standard Speaker, with the same question. Matthew received numerous letters suggesting projects such as food drives, clothing collections, and a dime drive. Matthew changed the latter suggestion to a penny drive, because he thought it would be more fun, and set an ambitious goal of collecting one million pennies, or \$10,000, a donate to the United Way of Greater Hazleton.

With the help of then-United Way of Greater Hazleton Executive Director James Settle, Matthew's project was named "A Million Ways to Care" when it began in August of 1998. Matthew visited almost every civic organization in the city with a request for pennies and placed hundreds of two-quart collection jars throughout his community of 26,000 people. School students throughout the community also enthusiastically collected pennies for him. On October 22, 1998, the pennies were collected and loaded on a flatbed truck, paraded through town with a police and school bus escort, and taken to First Federal Bank, where an enthusiastic crew of bank employees and volunteer spent thirteen hours counting more than 5.5 tons of pennies. The final sum amounted to \$18,196.91 or 1,819,691 pennies, which was promptly presented to the United Way of Greater Hazleton on last year's National "Make a Difference Day."

Mr. Speaker, Matthew Nonnemacher represents the best of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Matthew was once asked why he wanted to help the poor and his answer was plain: "So the poor can have everything that we have—like food, clothes, and a place to stay." I am glad the White House has recognized Matthew's achievement by inviting him to the White House Conference on Philanthropy. Matthew's dedicated parents, John and Sandi, also deserve praise for their heroic efforts to guide and help their son.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to bring Matthew's achievements to the attention of my colleagues and wish Matthew the best in his future philanthropic efforts.

A VERY SPECIAL MEMORIAL

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the opportunity to participate in an extraordinary event in my Congressional District. The Ex-Students Association of Blooming Grove High School in Blooming Grove, Texas, recently dedicated a World War II memorial listing the names of all area residents who had served in our armed forces in World War II.

What made this event so extraordinary is that the memorial contains the names of 324 men and women, and two German Shepherds. These 324 men and women served in the military from a town of less than 1,000 in population. I can't imagine that any community of comparable size anywhere in America contributed as many of its sons and daughters to the war effort between 1941 and 1945.

Of the 324 from this remarkable Navarro County community, a total of 15 lost their lives. Additionally, a tremendously high number of the soldiers, sailors, and airmen from Blooming Grove were officers, with 37 holding officer rank. One of these 37, Ray Morris, rose to the rank of Admiral.

Two dogs, "Snitch" Lane and "Jack" Garrison were pressed into duty as sentries. Bruce Lane, one of the driving forces behind the creation of the memorial, was only eight years old when his German Shepherd, "Snitch," was drafted by the Army. Bruce remembers how the dog's handler wrote letters home on a regular basis, letting him know that "Snitch" was OK.

The memorial, which was dedicated on October 16th, consists of five pieces of Georgia gray granite inscribed with the names, rank, and branch of Blooming Grove residents who served during World War II.

Members of the committee that raised money to construct the monument included Jean Hinkle, Alice Bell, Bob Lane, Bruce Lane, Jack McGraw, Ralph and Reba Ferrell, Shelby Thedford, Brad Butler, and Earl Smith. The committee overseeing construction included Bob Lane, Dana Stub, Loyd and Mary Gowd, and Helen Farrish. The beautification committee for the memorial included Terry Golden, Jean Hinkle, Bruce Lane, Elaine Campbell, and Alyne McCormick. They are all to be commended for their efforts in erecting this memorial.

Every community that contributed to the war effort should have a memorial to those who

served, but few towns are as deserving of a memorial as Blooming Grove. Communities like Blooming Grove won the war and helped save the world for democracy. It is highly appropriate that Blooming Grove residents' service has been recognized with a very special memorial.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on October 19, 1999, I inadvertently voted "no" on final passage of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act (RC 513). This bill is very important because it will make it easier for the disabled to re-enter the workforce and be productive members of society. America is about freedom, and that includes the freedom to work and not be penalized because of a disability.

I strongly supported this bill when the Committee on Ways and Means approved it, and I hope the President signs the bill when it reaches his desk.

COMMENDING THE COLCHESTER LIONS CLUB FOR FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend members of Lions Club of Colchester, Connecticut for fifty years of service to their community.

The Club, formed on August 2, 1949, provides support to a wide array of activities in Colchester. It has a long-standing commitment to young people through its sponsorship of sports leagues and the creation and expansion of scholarship programs. Members of the Club work hard each and every year to provide vital support to local food banks. In addition, the Colchester Lions Club has been a leader nationwide in raising funds to eradicate preventable causes of blindness. In 1993, the Club was recognized by its national organization as one of forty "model clubs" in the country for its successful work in support of this effort.

The Lions Club might be most well-known in town for decorating and lighting a large Christmas tree on the town green. Some of the founding members of the Club planted this tree forty years ago and successive generations of members have tended it. Much like the tree, the Club has grown and flourished and become a central part of the community.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Colchester Lions Club on its Fiftieth Anniversary. I am confident that it will continue to play a vital role in Colchester for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN THOMAS G. OTTERBEIN, USN

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding Naval Officer, Captain Thomas G. Otterbein, as he prepares to retire upon completion of 29 years of distinguished service. It is a privilege for me to honor his many outstanding achievements and commend him for his devotion to the Navy and our great Nation.

A native of Bad Axe, Michigan, Captain Otterbein is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Class of 1970. After receiving his commission, he completed flight training and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1973. His first operational tour was with Fighter Squadron 111 flying the F-4 Phantom II, where he made deployments to the Mediterranean Sea and Western Pacific Ocean aboard USS *Franklin D. Roosevelt* (CV-42) and USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV-63) respectively. Upon completion of F-14 Tomcat training, his next sea tour was with Fighter Squadron 51, where he made an around the world cruise aboard USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN-70). In recognition of his superior aeronautical skills and leadership abilities, Captain Otterbein was selected for F/A-18 Hornet training and subsequently became the Executive Officer of Fighter Squadrons 161 aboard USS *Midway* (CV-41). Following that tour, he was the Executive Officer of Fighter Squadron 195 and had command of that squadron for eighteen months.

Captain Otterbein successfully completed Nuclear Power Training and was soon back in the fleet, serving as Executive Officer of USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN-71). He subsequently assumed command of USS *Nashville* (LPD-13) and led the ship through Operations Support/Uphold Democracy in Haiti, earning the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and Battle Efficiency "E" Award. The crowning achievement of his career came when he reported as Commanding Officer, USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN-75), leading the crew of our newest aircraft carrier through her sea trials and initial training operations.

Captain Otterbein completed shore assignments at Air Test and Evaluation Squadron 4, where he was the Operations Officer and Operational Test Director, and as the Executive Officer and acting Commanding Officer of the Navy Fighter Weapons School (Top Gun). He has also had tours on the staff of Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet as the Safety Officer and as the senior aviation representative on the Chief of Naval Operations' Strategic Studies Group.

Captain Otterbein has been a dynamic and truly outstanding Naval Officer who has been a great mentor and a charismatic leader. He is a passionate advocate of the Sea Services and has devoted himself to caring for our Sailors in the Fleet and their families. His contributions and accomplishments will have long term benefits for both the Navy and the country he so proudly honors with his uniform. As Captain Otterbein prepares for quieter times with his wife Catherine Mary, I am certain that my colleagues will join me in thanking him for his many years of Naval service.

HONORING JAMES BOLAND OF WEST HAVEN AND ALL OTHER ALL-AMERICORPS AWARD WINNERS ON THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICORPS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special anniversary for this country. Five years ago, President Clinton and a bipartisan majority in Congress created the AmeriCorps program. Since then, more than 150,000 men and women have devoted 1 or 2 years of their lives to getting things done for America—making our people safer, and healthier.

AmeriCorps is a bold and innovative approach to building the American community through national service. In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps members receive expanded educational opportunities. In the end, Mr. Speaker, it is our nation that wins.

America has benefited from this service in a wide variety of ways. AmeriCorps members have helped to build or refurbish 11,000 homes for low-income people. They are tutoring children in some of our toughest neighborhoods—more than 2 million at-risk kids have benefited from these efforts. They have contributed to the unprecedented decline in crime rates nationwide by working with law enforcement to establish 40,000 safety patrols. And AmeriCorps members in the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) have gone to the sites of some of our Nation's worst natural disasters to provide assistance. There is an NCCC team on the ground today in North Carolina helping the victims of Hurricane Floyd.

As part of the AmeriCorps' fifth anniversary celebrating, 21 exceptional AmeriCorps members have been selected to receive the first annual All-AmeriCorps awards to honor exemplary community service. Awards were made in the following categories: Getting Things Done; Strengthening Communities; Common Ground; and Leadership.

One of the Getting Things Done award recipients is from West Haven, CT, in my district. His name is James Boland. Ten years ago, James was a homeless Vietnam veteran. Today, he is getting things done as a AmeriCorps member at the Veterans Administration's Connecticut Community Care Center—the very facility that took him in off the streets and saved his life 10 years ago.

The Community Care Center, or CCC for short, provides veterans struggling with mental illness, substance abuse, or homelessness with a continuation of community-based rehabilitation services. James is an important part of that care. He developed and oversees the CCC's mentoring and buddy programs, and he established and leads the monthly family dinners. He also conducts skills building group sessions for veterans in the CCC's day program. On top of all that, James works 20 hours a week as the property manager for four houses for homeless and mentally ill veterans—he is also the resident manager of one of the homes.

The CCC changed James's life. He has gone from living on the streets to being close to finishing his bachelor's degree from Charter

Oak State College. AmeriCorps will make it possible for him to continue this path of success. He plans to use his education award to go to graduate school.

Mr. Speaker, James Boland is proof positive of the value and success of the AmeriCorps program, not only for the opportunities it has given James, but for the care and compassion James has given to homeless vets. His is not an isolated story. Twenty other AmeriCorps members are being honored today. Let me briefly describe them and the categories of their awards:

GETTING THINGS DONE

Christine Packer was an AmeriCorps VISTA member and VISTA leader in Idaho. She helped start a statewide immunization effort that successfully boosted Idaho's immunization rate for 2-year-olds from 50 percent to more than 70 percent.

The highlight of Traci Chevaux's AmeriCorps service in Colorado was the creation of Smoke Free Sheridan. Traci brought together the local school district, school-based clinics, higher education institutions, faith based groups, the health department, community-based organizations, physicians and local residents to develop a program that would prevent and reduce the prevalence of smoking among school-aged children and their families in the town of Sheridan.

Lin Min Kong is an attorney who worked in South Central Los Angeles with low-income Thai immigrants and helped them turn a run-down old hotel into affordable housing with community space for social services, after-school programs, and computer skills development classes for children and families.

Toni Sage organized a tutoring and mentoring program at Parkview Elementary School in Salt Lake City. Alarmed by drug activity that was taking place two blocks away from the school, Toni worked together with her students, students from the University of Utah, and local community organizations, to turn the area into an urban green space.

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

Jack Bridges did his AmeriCorps service in Americus, GA, his hometown. He built houses for low-income people for Habitat for Humanity and started a reading and tutoring program for the Habitat homeowners' children.

Scott Finn spent 2 years as an AmeriCorps member in Big Ugly Creek, WV. In his first year, he worked with community residents to turn an abandoned school into a community center, and in his second year, Scott helped start APPALREAD, a childhood literacy program. During APPALREAD's first year, 82 percent of the children served improved their reading scores.

Tera Oglesby served with the Seattle Police Department's Crime Survivor Services Unit. Together with another AmeriCorps member, Tera developed the first Victim Support Team for the Seattle Police Department.

Anna Severens served as an AmeriCorps member with the classroom-on-wheels, a free mobile pre-school program operating out of a converted school bus. Her work in raising money for the program and expanding client referrals resulted in doubling the capacity of the program.

Byrnadett Frerker has done 2 years of AmeriCorps service. She spent her first year establishing Literacy Avengers, a computer literacy program for middle school students. The students then taught computer skills to their

parents. She spent her second year fighting fires and doing hurricane relief work as part of the St. Louis Safety Corps.

COMMON GROUND

Christy Hicks established and supervised a conflict resolution program for middle school students in Pontiac, Michigan training students as peer mediators. She then worked to expand the program to elementary school students.

Mark Payne is an AmeriCorps member who served in his hometown on the south side of Chicago with City Year and Public allies. Mark helped develop a mentoring program that recruited young African-American males as volunteers and role models for youth in the community.

During Jamie Lee Manning's 2 years with AmeriCorps, she distinguished herself as a leader and team builder who organized a 3-day service project to honor and celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King. The project involved parents and children from the diverse San Jose, CA community.

Trampas Stucker was a high school athlete who was paralyzed in a motorcycle accident. That did not stop him from graduating with his class the following year and joining AmeriCorps as a reading and math tutor for economically disadvantaged kids in his hometown of Tonasket, Washington. He also worked with "The New Kids on the Block," a traveling puppet show that taught kids about acceptance and celebration of diversity in race, gender, cultures, and physical disabilities.

During her first term of AmeriCorps service, Graciela Noriega and a diverse team of AmeriCorps members were assigned to do parks and recreation activities with young people in Orlando, FL. When the community did not accept the group at first, Graciela created "Culture Shock" a program that brought a diverse group of guest speakers to the community to participate in activities with local youth, sharing their culture through food, music, dance, arts, crafts, and dialog.

LEADERSHIP

Kyoko Henson joined AmeriCorps as a way to give back to the Pittsburgh, PA, community for the support it gave her as a single mother who escaped an abusive relationship. During her AmeriCorps service, Kyoko organized outreach projects to address community health needs, spearheaded clothing drives, served as a reading tutor and educator about community services and created a summer youth program.

Kelton Young did his AmeriCorps service in Fort Worth, TX, as a TRUCE specialist, working with young people in gangs, or who were at risk of joining gangs, to make positive decisions about their lives. Kelton helped to develop 18 TRUCE sites, each serving more than 200 participants.

Mason Jenkins was an AmeriCorps member and team leader for YouthBuild in New Bedford, MA. In addition to his work with YouthBuild, Mason joined the steering committee of a group formed to address teen pregnancy. He also helped establish Young People United, a youth group that successfully put on a citywide conference called "The City is Mine", to bring young people together to discuss the issues that are most important to them.

Maria del Mar Bosch did her AmeriCorps service in Puerto Rico, where she helped to

set up training opportunities for America Reads tutors working with Head Start students and after-school programs for children in poverty.

Jason Lapeituu wanted to provide a safe and stable place for young people to feel accepted and to develop their hopes, dreams and goals for the future. As an AmeriCorps member, he made that happen in Pine Island, MN. He knew that in order for young people to be comfortable in the youth center of his dreams, they had to be a part of creating it. Working with local youth, Jason found a site, planned community events that raised start up funds and helped to renovate a laundromat into the Pine Island Union of Youth, Inc.

From the age of 15, Arthur White lived on his own, having grown up in poverty in an abusive home. After high school, he joined AmeriCorps and began serving with an environmental education program working with elementary aged students. With a dream of one day running his own environmental education center, Arthur was instrumental in the reactivation of the Nature Center at Bear Brook State Park in New Hampshire to provide park visitors with an opportunity to learn about the park environment.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the contributions of these terrific people and the benefits AmeriCorps service has had for the country.

HONORING ROBERT GILLETTE

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Robert Gillette for his outstanding contribution to the community and his twelve years of public service as Commissioner of the Port of Houston Authority, an organization representing 26 cities in Harris County.

Mr. Gillette retired this year, but his contributions to Harris County and the Port of Houston Authority will surely endure. From the day he was sworn in as a Commissioner of the Port of Houston, Mr. Gillette pledged to join his fellow commissioners in making the Port more competitive in difficult times for the maritime industry. Truly a man of his word, Mr. Gillette made good on that promise. For 6 terms without pay, he faithfully conducted his duties awarding contracts, acquiring property, setting port tariffs and directing operations with a keen eye toward keeping the Port of Houston viable and thriving.

It was under Mr. Gillette's tenure as Commissioner that the project to deepen and widen the Houston Ship Channel was undertaken. Marking the largest expansion of the Ship Channel in decades, Mr. Gillette and his fellow commissioners were able to bring together the environmental and business communities to get the job done.

Mr. Gillette graduated cum laude from the South Texas School of Law in 1941. He also served his country as an Army Air Corps aviation cadet. Before establishing a law practice, Gillette was assigned to the Judge Advocate Section at Kelly Field in San Antonio, Texas.

He left the service in 1946 as a first lieutenant and moved to Baytown to begin law practice with Reid, Strickland and Gillette. It was a

partnership that spanned 41 years, with Mr. Gillette serving as managing partner for 30 years.

In addition to his law practice, he was president of Bay Title Company and a director of Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Baytown for 25 years. Robert Gillette's professional affiliations include the Texas State Bar Association; Houston Bar Association; Baytown Bar Association and the Texas Bar Foundation.

As a testament to the expertise that Mr. Gillette brought to bear in both his business and public dealings, in the late 1980s, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese appointed Gillette to the People to People Citizens Ambassador Program.

Mr. Gillette also has an extensive record of community involvement. He was a member of the Board of Managers of City-County Hospital and has served as board member and president of the Baytown Area Water Authority since 1973. He and his wife, Suzzane, have three grown children.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate my friend on his retirement and commend him on a job well done. As Port Commissioner, knowing that the fortunes of the Port influences the total employment picture of Harris County, Bob Gillette always strove to keep the Port a first-rate facility. We owe him a debt of gratitude for the work he has done addressing the concerns of our Port community, and thus the needs of all of Harris County.

CONGRATULATING PASCACK VALLEY HOSPITAL ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Pascack Valley Hospital on the 40th anniversary of its founding. Located in Westwood, Pascack Valley is one of the finest medical institutions in the State of New Jersey. Its story is one of a local community in desperate need of a hospital ready accessible to everyone and the people who worked through two wars and nearly two decades to achieve that goal.

Pascack Valley Hospital had its beginnings in May 1941 when Westwood resident Louise Bohlin was shocked that a Hillsdale friend died after waiting three weeks for admission to the nearest existing Bergen County hospital because of a shortage of beds. Mrs. Bohlin vowed that the Pascack Valley would have a hospital of its own and organized local physicians, mayors and concerned citizens into the Pascack Valley Hospital Association. The association held its first meeting November 27, 1941. Unfortunately, that meeting came only 10 days before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and plans for a hospital were put on hold for the duration of World War II.

The end of World War II brought an influx of returning veterans and expanding families, and intensified interest in the need for a community hospital. The Pascack Valley Hospital Association was reorganized in 1946 but the Korean War intervened it was not until June 1 1959—18 years after the idea was born—that the single-story, 86-bed hospital opened its doors and welcomed its first patients. The

hospital has grown tremendously since then. Today, it is a full-service, 291-bed hospital providing a wide range of the most advanced, technically sophisticated health care services available anywhere. The PVH medical team consists of nearly 450 physicians, 1,000 nurses and other health professionals and 1,000 dedicated volunteers. Pascack Valley Hospital serves 16,000 inpatients and 70,000 outpatients a year, yet maintains its strong dedication to personalized care—making each individual feel he or she is the most important patient in the hospital.

As part of Well Care Group Inc., Pascack Valley Hospital itself is supplemented by an outpatient dialysis center, a community health care center, a hospice, a preventative medicine institute, a reproductive assistance center, a psychiatric institute and an MRI facility, among other services. In addition, it is affiliated with Westchester Medical Center, Hackensack University Medical Center and New York Medical College, further enhancing the expertise and facilities available to benefit PVH patients.

I would like to take this occasion to enlist the Congress in giving special thanks and recognition to some of the extraordinary individuals who will be honored at the hospital's 40th anniversary celebration this weekend. Perhaps most prominent is philanthropist Lillian Booth, whose generosity has helped fund an oncology center and a dialysis center bearing her name—along with two ambulances and a specialized ultrasound scanner—during her 20-year involvement with the hospital. In addition, Bernice Alexander, widow of the late Dr. Stewart Alexander, one of PVH's best-known physicians, will be honored for her many contributions. Mrs. Alexander served as a lieutenant colonel and director of nursing in the Mediterranean Theater during World War II and was decorated for her wartime work in epidemiology. President of the Women's National Republican Club in the 1950s, she was a prime organizer of Project Hope, raising funds for medical supplies for crippled nations after the war. Also being honored is Richard Galgano, whose position as hospital janitor might make him seem an unlikely honoree. Mr. Galgano, however, is the only employee of the hospital who has been with PVH throughout its entire 40-year history. His long employment is a testimony to loyalty and he is well known to generations of patients, doctors, nurses and staff.

Also being honored are six physicians affiliated with PVH from the beginning and still on the active staff: Dr. Joan Barrett, Robert Boyer, Frank Ferraro, Theodore Goldberg, Anthony Salerno and Arnold Sobel.

Recognition must also go to all board members and PVH President Louis Ycre, whose extraordinary leadership skills and compassionate concern for the well being of the patients set the standard for the entire staff.

A local hospital is one of the most basic protections for health and safety a community can be expected to offer, as vital as police and fire departments, clean drinking water, good roads and good schools. Those of us who remember what life was like for the injured or ill before Pascack Valley Hospital was founded don't have to imagine what life would be like without it. Pascack Valley Hospital has made a tremendous difference in our community.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in expressing our appreciation for the work done by all associated with Pascack Valley Hospital and wishing them many years of continued success.

CONGRATULATING HENRY "HANK" AARON ON 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF BREAKING MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOME RUN RECORD AND RECOGNIZING HIM AS ONE OF THE GREATEST BASEBALL PLAYERS OF ALL TIME

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the greatest baseball players in history—Henry "Hank" Aaron. During his major league career—a career which spanned nearly a quarter century—Hank Aaron broke more batting records than any other player in Major League baseball.

Twenty-five years ago, on April 8, 1974, Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run—breaking the Major League Record for career home runs held previously by Babe Ruth. Hank Aaron still holds a place in the heart of every baseball fan. Along with Ruth, Willie Mays, and Ted Williams, Aaron was recently elected by the fans to the MasterCard All-Century Team.

But Hank Aaron was more than just batting titles, All-Star games and home run records. He was an important part of my childhood, and the childhood of anyone growing up in Milwaukee in the 1950's. I remember going to Milwaukee County Stadium to watch the great Milwaukee Braves teams of the 1950s. The Stadium was always packed—even though Milwaukee was the second smallest city in the Major Leagues, the Milwaukee Braves were the first National League team to draw two million fans in a season.

Hank Aaron was the reason so many people came to watch the Braves. He began his career with Milwaukee in 1952, when a scout recruited him for a Braves farm team. Two years later, Aaron made his first major league appearance. He went on to spend 13 years with the Milwaukee Braves, hitting a total of 398 home runs and leading the Braves to two league pennants and a World Series victory in 1957. On September 20, 1965, Aaron became the last Milwaukee player to hit a home run in Milwaukee County Stadium.

Nearly a decade later, after a brilliant career in Atlanta, Aaron returned to Milwaukee—this time for the Milwaukee Brewers. He ended his career there, retiring in 1976.

Hank Aaron is an integral part of the history of baseball and the history of Milwaukee. I am pleased to join my colleagues in honoring Hammerin' Hank Aaron.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHAPIN HIGH SCHOOL NAVAL JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS UNIT

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House that the Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) Unit at Chapin High School, in Chapin, South Carolina, has been selected as the "Most Outstanding NJROTC Unit in the Nation" by the Navy League of the United States. Recently, I had the great pleasure to present the Navy League Trophy to Chapin High School NJROTC Unit Commanding Officer David James Riser at a ceremony at the Chapin High School Stadium. This recognition was well received by those in attendance, and it was an obvious source of pride for the entire student body, as well as the faculty and the parents of the cadets.

The Chapin High School NJROTC Unit is composed of a dynamic group of cadets that should serve as a model for others to follow across our Nation. This Unit has a diverse cadet population that includes: a class president, a homecoming queen, Eagle Scouts, the leader of the State Championship SAT Team, the editor of the school newspaper, the captain of the football team, the captain of the soccer team, the captain of the cross country track team, All-State Athletes, 46 varsity athletes, 16 school band members, cheerleaders, and other dedicated students. The NJROTC Unit was established at Chapin High School in 1996, with 42 cadets. From the start, this Unit excelled, being named the "Best New Unit" by the Area Commander for its first year. Three years later, the Unit has grown to include 16 percent of the school enrollment, with a waiting list of 35 students.

The Chapin High School NJROTC Unit is led by two experienced Naval Science Instructors, Colonel Richard C. Slack and Senior Chief Petty Officer Charles W. Cook. Colonel Slack has had a distinguished career in the United States Marine Corps. Upon graduation from East Tennessee State University in 1967, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. In 1969, then-First Lieutenant Slack was designated as a Naval Aviator and he served in Southeast Asia for thirteen months. He progressed through the officer ranks for more than twenty years, also earning a Master of Business Administration degree from Webster University, in Saint Louis, Missouri, and a Master of International Strategy and Policy degree from the Naval War College, in Providence, Rhode Island. Colonel Slack served as the Chief of Staff for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) from 1989–1991, and he retired in 1996, as the Commanding Officer and Professor of Naval Science for the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit at The University of South Carolina.

Senior Chief Petty Officer Charles W. Cook is the Associate Naval Science Instructor at Chapin High School. A native of Irmo, South Carolina, Senior Chief Cook attended Benedict College, The University of South Carolina, and DePaul University. He completed twenty years of active duty in the United States Navy, with

eight years of regular duty and twelve years of recruiting duty. Among the honors that have been received by Senior Chief Cook during his Naval career are the "Sailor of the Year Award," the "National Recruiter of the Year Award," the "Recruiter-in-Charge of the Year Award," and the "Zone Supervisor of the Year Award."

The Commanding Officer of the Chapin High School NJROTC Unit is David James Riser, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Wayne Riser, of Chapin. David Riser is an outstanding young man who has excelled in many areas as a student. He is the recipient of the "First Place Chapin NJROTC Academic Award," the "Certificate of Honorable (Cum Laude) Mention on the National Latin Examination," and the "Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Composition," among other awards. He also is a South Carolina Junior Scholar and he has been named to Who's Who Among American High School Students. Prior to his position as Commanding Officer, Cadet Riser served as the Supply Officer, and, then, as the Operations Officer of his NJROTC Unit.

Mr. Speaker, I was an NROTC Midshipman at The University of South Carolina, and that experience provided the foundation upon which I have built my career in public service. As the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, I am a strong supporter of the JROTC and the ROTC Programs. The fine cadets at Chapin High School are excellent examples of what the JROTC Program stands for. I am very proud of what this outstanding group of high school students has accomplished. Since being established in 1996, the NJROTC Unit at Chapin High School has doubled in size, and 51 percent of the Freshman Class have enrolled in the NJROTC Unit for the 1999/2000 academic year. The Chapin High School NJROTC cadets have worked tirelessly to prove that they exemplify excellence, and I would like to offer my congratulations to them for being named the most outstanding NJROTC Unit in the Nation for 1999 by the Navy League of the United States.

TRIBUTE TO BILL GARRETT

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, in 1990 during my race for Governor of Georgia I had the privilege to meet and get to know Heath Garrett, then a student at the University of Georgia. In the years since, Heath became my campaign manager, my Chief of Staff, and always my friend.

As our friendship grew, I came to know Heath's father, Bill. On the evening of October sixteenth, Bill Garrett passed away, the victim of a heart attack and a lifetime battle with diabetes. I rise today, to pay tribute to the life of Bill Garrett.

During the past year, Bill volunteered in my Congressional District Office 4 hours a day answering the phone and greeting constituents. He always answered the phone the same way, "Johnny Isakson's office, Bill Garrett how may I help you." Bill Garrett's voice was always pleasant, and his "how may I help you" assured the caller he really wanted to help.

As I came to know Bill, I learned of his battle with diabetes. For over 50 years Bill dealt with the daily blood sugar test, the rigid and limiting diet, and the inevitable complication of the disease that strikes thousands of Americans every year. Like so many Americans with diabetes, Bill Garrett did not complain and led a productive life.

As we pause to pay tribute to Bill Garrett, each of us in Congress should renew our effort to commit the funds for the research to find a cure for diabetes. There are thousands of Americans like Bill Garrett, and many in every Congressional district in this country. Let us work together to make tributes like this less frequent, and the occurrence of diabetes less frequent in America. Let us do it for Bill Garrett.

TRIBUTE TO THE BLACK CANYON
OF THE GUNNISON AND THOSE
WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with an overwhelming sense of pride that I now rise to pay tribute to a truly historic event in the proud and distinguished history of the great State of Colorado: the establishment of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.

As the House sponsor of legislation that redesignated the Black Canyon as a national park, it gives me great joy to describe for this esteemed body's record the beauty of this truly majestic place. In addition, I would like to offer my gratitude to a community of individuals instrumental in the long process that ultimately yielded the establishment of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who has visited the Black Canyon can attest to its awe-inspiring natural beauty. Named for the dark rock that makes up its sheer walls, the Black Canyon is largely composed of what geologists call basement rocks, the oldest rocks on the earth estimated at 1.7 billion years old. With its narrow openings, sheer walls, and scenic gorges that plunge 2000 feet into the clear blue majesty of the Gunnison River, the Black Canyon is a natural crown jewel second to none in its magnificent splendor. Though other canyons may have greater depth or descend on a steeper course, few combine these attributes as breathtakingly as does the Black Canyon.

If ever there was a place worthy of the prestigious status that only national park status can afford, Mr. Speaker, it is the Black Canyon. But as you know, national parks don't just happen. In this case, it took nearly 15 years, several Congressional Representatives and Senators, innumerable locally elected officials, and a virtual sea of committed citizens in western Colorado.

Included in this group are the good people of Delta, Colorado. During this long and at times difficult process, Delta's civic leaders have given tirelessly and beyond measure in the hopes of making the Black Canyon a national park. Again and again these great Americans rose to the challenge, doing everything in their power to fulfill this dream. Without Delta's leadership and perseverance, none of what we have accomplished would have ever been possible.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I give my thanks to the people of Delta who played a leading role in making the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park a wonderful reality for Colorado, America, and the world to enjoy.

A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE P.
MITCHELL

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a man who is not only a great Galvestonian, but a great American, Mr. George P. Mitchell. On Friday, the City of Galveston will pay tribute to George for his service to the community by naming a street after him. Business took George away from the 9th District, but he came back to make it a better place to live.

George Mitchell was born in the Ninth Congressional District, the area of Texas that I have the privilege to represent. Following his graduation from Texas A&M University and his service during World War II, he went to work for a newly formed wildcatting company. In 1959 he was appointed president and guided the progression of the company to its current status as one of the most extensive independent gas and oil producers in the nation and one of the largest real estate developers in the Houston-Galveston region.

A man of great vision, George developed a real estate project in the 1960's on a scale never seen in the flourishing Houston area. He created The Woodlands, a 25,000-acre planned community located 27 miles north of downtown Houston. Today, more than 40,000 people reside in The Woodlands and are living George Mitchell's dream.

George has made the bulk of his substantial contributions to the Galveston community and the people who live there. He believes in Galveston and its residents, and has unfalteringly placed his time and energy into its progression. As I thank George for his contributions, I also must recognize his wife, Cynthia Mitchell, who was by his side lending strong support and partnership throughout his career.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to speak on behalf of Mr. George Mitchell and all of his accomplishments. He is a man that I look to for inspiration as I continue to work for the communities and neighborhoods of Texas. When I drive down "Mitchell Avenue" it will be with great pleasure, as it recognizes a man who has committed his life not to himself, but to others.

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Included in this group are the good people of Montrose, Colorado. During this long and at times difficult process, Montrose's civic leaders have given tirelessly and beyond measure in the hopes of making the Black Canyon a national park. Again and again these great Americans rose to the challenge, doing everything in their power to fulfill this dream. Without Montrose's leadership and perseverance, none of what we have accomplished would have ever been possible.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I give my thanks to the people of Montrose who played a leading role in making the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park a wonderful reality for Colorado, America, and the world to enjoy.

CONGRATULATING THE BOSTON
DEMONS

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article which appeared in the Melbourne Age on October 20, 1999 for the record and to offer my congratulations to the Boston Demons for their outstanding efforts in winning the 1999 U.S. Australian Rules National Championship.

[From the Melbourne Age, Oct. 20, 1999]

BOSTON DEMONS 1999 U.S. NATIONAL
CHAMPIONS

CINCINNATI, OHIO (17 October 1999). The Boston Demons Australian Rules Football team today won the 1999 U.S. Australian Rules National Championship by narrowly defeating the Santa Cruz Roos in overtime.

The national championship was host by the Cincinnati Dockers, and consisted of 22 teams from around the country, representing cities such as Nashville, New York, Seattle, Chicago, Denver and San Diego.

The Boston Demons were the defending U.S. National Champions. The national championship, called the Grand Final, was, by some accounts, the most intense game of Australian Rules football ever played in the U.S., with neither side giving any quarter. Santa Cruz played with dedicated intensity, while the Boston Demons yielded nothing. At the end of regular time of two 20-minute halves, the game was drawn at 20 points each. Two five-minute periods of extra time were added, in which Boston kicked a quick goal. The second extra time period saw a battle of ferocious intensity where the game's outcome was held in the balance. So intense was the last five-minute period that two Santa Cruz players were carried off injured. Neither side backed down. The final score was Boston Demons 4 goals 2 behinds, for a total of 26 points, to Santa Cruz 3 goals 2 behinds for a total of 20 points.

The Boston Demons is composed of expatriate Australians, Americans, Irish, and a Dane. Based in Boston, MA, the Boston Demons have recently had a large amount of media exposure in both the U.S. and Australia because the team highlights the loss of Australian intellectual capital to the U.S. (see: <http://www.theage.com.au/daily/991002/news/specials/news28.html>).

TRIBUTE TO THE BLACK CANYON OF THE GUNNISON AND THOSE WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE

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Included in this group are the good people of Gunnison, Colorado. During this long and at

times difficult process, Gunnison's civic leaders have given tirelessly and beyond measure in the hopes of making the Black Canyon a national park. Again and again these great Americans rose to the challenge, doing everything in their power to fulfill. Without Gunnison's leadership and perseverance, none of what we have accomplished would have ever been possible.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I give my thanks to the people of Gunnison who played a leading role in making the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park a wonderful reality for Colorado, America, and the world to enjoy.

MEN AND WOMEN OF HONOR

HON. HELEN CHENOWETH-HAGE

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE. Mr. Speaker, all of us were alarmed when it was recently reported that American soldiers fired upon civilian refugees during the Korean War. However, what was not reported were the numerous acts of compassion that our fine fighting men and women performed during the Korean War.

One such Marine is Ron Rankin, a Kootenai County Commissioner from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Mr. Rankin wrote a powerful guest column regarding his personal experiences as a young Marine during the Korean War in the October 18, 1999 edition of the *Spokesman-Review*. In this column he details many selfless actions such as Marines giving their own rations to starving Korean families, as well as a rifle company assisting in the birth of a North Korean baby. I ask unanimous consent that his statement appear in the appropriate place in the RECORD. Furthermore, I urge all my colleagues to read Mr. Rankin's entire column to see that the majority of the fighting men and women who served in Korea did so with honor.

[From the *Spokesman-Review*, Oct. 18, 1999]

SINS OF FEW NEED NOT OVERSHADOW TROOPS' ACHIEVEMENTS

(By Ron Rankin)

I felt sick, physically and emotionally, as I read the report. The Forgotten War was finally to be remembered. But of what? For the allegation that an Army company had fired on civilian refugees early in the Korean War.

America was unprepared when the Korean War broke out. We had recklessly downscaled our military since the end of World War II, which may account for the lack of discipline of troops involved in the No Gun Ri incident. Unfortunately, that incident could stain the reputation of many valiant young men who did serve with honor.

A headline that would more accurately reflect the character of our American troops should read, "Tired, over-extended, battle-hardened Marines share rations with refugees."

The Marine Corps has the reputation of having highly-trained, highly-disciplined and highly-efficient combat soldiers. Not generally recognized is that, behind all the bravado, they are real people with real emotions.

The Marine Corps Reserve unit I served with, from the historic landing at Inchon to the epic Battle of the Chosin Reservoir, were young husbands and fathers. Many like me had served a "hitch" in their teens, had been

trained and tried and knew what to expect. We had a desire to get the job done and go home to our families.

During the outfitting, processing and shipping out we were all given a package from the Red Cross which included a pocket-size Bible.

This Bible fit the breast pocket of GI dungarees. It had "bullet proof" steel covers front and back. On the front was an American flag. The Lord's Prayer was inscribed on the back. I had a picture of my beautiful wife and seven month old daughter on the inside cover. Every time you took your Bible out, you saw the tiny American flag which reminded you why you were there. The Lord's Prayer gave you the strength to be there. The family picture kept you human under inhumane conditions.

On the 78-mile breakout fight to the sea from the Chosin Reservoir, in 30-below-zero weather, I witnessed acts of unselfish personal sacrifice that are still fresh in my mind after almost 50 years.

Along a torturous mountain road, ragged, and near-starving refugees followed along with the troops and trucks. Over and over, I saw battle-hardened Marines pull out cans of rations carried in their underwear to prevent them from freezing, and hand their food to the freezing families.

The most moving example of wartime compassion I witnessed was when a man and wife with two small children stopped on the road so the mother could give birth. Without hesitation, several Marines from a rifle squad stopped to help. One unrolled his sleeping bag, pulled out the wool blanket liner and tore it in half to make swaddling wraps for a brand new North Korean infant on the road to freedom.

On reaching the sea at the Port of Hamhung, a mass exodus of troops began.

Along with our troops, nearly 100,000 refugees came into this port fleeing the Communism of the north; voting with their feet for freedom. The American Navy could not ignore such desperation and determination. A humanitarian flotilla was assembled consisting of every type of ship that could be brought in before the port was leveled on Christmas Eve 1950. All refugees were rescued.

Conditions were horrible for many thousands of them freezing on the decks of ships at sea. Many of the American troops were on decks too, but far better equipped for the cold than the rag-tag refugees.

The contrast between the American troops and refugees is still indelible in my mind. We were born and raised in a free republic having experienced all the benefits of freedom. We were anxious to return to our homes, families and freedoms. The North Korean refugees were born and raised in a Communist dictatorship, experiencing only repression and tyranny. They were determined to escape such conditions at any cost including life itself.

And what of the 100,000 North Korean refugees? Was it worth the hardships endured for freedom? They and their progeny are now living in freedom purchased with the blood of 54,000 young American sons, husbands and fathers.

There are always a few miscreants in every part of our American society, including, at times, a few American soldiers. However, as Americans, we cannot—we must not—let the indefensible actions of a few blemish the magnificent sacrifices of the many in what, until now, has been called The Forgotten War.

Semper Fidelis.

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Mr. Speaker, anyone who has visited the Black Canyon can attest to its awe-inspiring natural beauty. Named for the dark rock that makes up its sheer walls, the Black Canyon is largely composed of what geologists call basement rocks, the oldest rocks on the earth estimated at 1.7 billion years old. With its narrow openings, sheer walls, and scenic gorges that plunge 2000 feet into the clear blue majesty of the Gunnison River, the Black Canyon is a natural crown jewel second to none in its magnificent splendor. Though other canyons may have greater depth or descend on a steeper course, few combine these attributes as breathtakingly as does the Black Canyon.

If ever there was a place worthy of the prestigious status that only national park status

can afford, Mr. Speaker, it is the Black Canyon. But as you know, national parks don't just happen. In this case, it took nearly 15 years, several Congressional Representatives and Senators, innumerable locally elected officials, and a virtual sea of committed citizens in western Colorado.

Included in this group are the good people of Crawford, Colorado. During this long and at times difficult process, Crawford's civic leaders have given tirelessly and beyond measure in the hopes of making the Black Canyon a national park. Again and again these great Americans rose to the challenge, doing everything in their power to fulfill this dream. Without Crawford's leadership and perseverance, none of what we have accomplished would have ever been possible.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I give my thanks to the people of Crawford who played a leading role in making the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park a wonderful reality for Colorado, America, and the world to enjoy.

REA CAREY HONORED FOR HER
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AT THE
NATIONAL YOUTH ADVOCACY CO-
ALITION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rea Carey, founding Executive Director of the National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC). NYAC is the only National organization solely focused on advocacy, education,

and information addressing the broad range of issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth. Since the founding of the organization in 1993, Carey has worked with the board and staff to develop NYAC as an organization committed to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth leadership, national vision driven by community-based needs, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth activism without a broader social justice context.

Rea's list of accomplishments in her six-year tenure is as extensive as it is impressive. Through her leadership, the NYAC's budget has grown from \$80,000 per year to \$900,000 per year, the staff has grown from one to eleven, and the breadth and depth of its work increased as well. Among other things, the NYAC convenes a "National Summit" every year focused entirely on the political, social, and mental/physical health issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth. It provides skills building and leadership training for youth, technical assistance to community organizations, fundraising, referral networks, and other many other services.

Rea's large contribution to this success was recognized this year, when she was given an "Award of Excellence" by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Adolescent and School Health for her "imaginative and creative efforts" in helping to educate America's young people about preventing HIV infection.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all my colleagues to join me in honoring Rea Carey. While her good work at NYAC is done, I am sure that her career of good works is only beginning.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, October 21, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 22

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the security of the Panama Canal.
SH-216

OCTOBER 25

1 p.m.
Small Business
To hold hearings to examine the incidents of high-tech fraud on small businesses.
SD-562

OCTOBER 26

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on the interpretation and implementation plans of subsistence management regulations for public lands in Alaska.
SD-366

10 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the courthouse construction program.
SD-406

2 p.m.
Judiciary
Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine Chinese espionage at United States nuclear facilities

ties and the transfer of United States technology to China.

S-407, Capitol

2:30 p.m.
Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the Real Property Management Program and the maintenance of the historic homes and senior offices' quarters.
SR-222

OCTOBER 27

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for elementary and secondary education assistance, focusing on Indian educational programs; to be followed by a business meeting on pending calendar business.
SR-285

Armed Services
To hold hearings on the nomination of The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601: Gen. Joseph W. Ralston, 9172, To be General; the nomination of The following named officer for appointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and appointment to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 154: Gen. Richard B. Myers, 7092, To be General; the nomination of The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601: Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz, 0711, To be General; and the nomination of The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601: Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart, 7375, To be General.
SH-216

10 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings on terrorism issues, focusing on victims' access to terrorist assets.
SD-226

10:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the future of U.S.-China relations.
SD-419

2:30 p.m.
Judiciary
Criminal Justice Oversight Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the Justice Department's response to international parental kidnapping.
SD-226

Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on S. 1405, to amend the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge Authority Act of 1995 to provide an authorization of contract authority for fiscal years 2004 through 2007.
SD-406

3 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on numerous tax treaties and protocol.
SD-419

OCTOBER 28

9:30 a.m.
Small Business
To hold hearings on the Environmental Protection Agency's recent rulemaking in regards to small businesses.
SR-428A

10:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on the nomination of Joseph W. Prueher, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.
SD-419

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the Federal hydroelectric licensing process.
SD-366

NOVEMBER 4

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Resources on S. 1586, to reduce the fractionated ownership of Indian Lands; and S. 1315, to permit the leasing of oil and gas rights on certain lands held in trust for the Navajo Nation or allotted to a member of the Navajo Nation, in any case in which there is consent from a specified percentage interest in the parcel of land under consideration for lease.
Room to be announced

CANCELLATIONS

OCTOBER 26

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 882, to strengthen provisions in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 with respect to potential Climate Change.
SD-366